

Benthic Mat and “Vacuuming” Method: DEC Application Requirements

1. Proof must be shown from a qualified person (with their signature, title, proof of their ability to identify the *Eurasian milfoil* plant), that the area of concern is predominately *E. milfoil*; on plans, show the size of the area with *E. milfoil* and the size of the area to be covered/vacuumed; depth of water; justification for use of benthic mat or vacuuming method; a search for the caterpillar stage of the pyralid moth (*Acentria ephemerella*) and the aquatic weevil (*Euhrychiopsis lecontei*) in the *E. milfoil* must be done.
2. Show that biological alternatives and other methods, are not practicable for this site.
3. No benthic mats or vacuuming will be permitted in DEC Freshwater Wetlands.
4. Geotextile (gas permeable) material must be used, as a benthic mat.
5. Weights, for the benthic mat, must be clean rocks, or other Department approved material.
6. For the benthic mat: who will be placing/removing and maintaining the benthic mat? What means of placement/removal/maintenance will be used, ie divers, by hand, etc.?
7. Identify private water intakes and inlet/outlet structures on either side of the property being permitted. Locate and state the distance to these structures on the plans, to be submitted, as stated in No. 1, above.
8. Benthic mats are to be in place by TBD; and must be removed by TBD to protect reproduction of warmwater fishes. Timing for the vacuuming method shall be TBD based on the beginning of warmwater fish season in Owasco Lake; timing for later in the season will also be TBD.
9. For vacuuming: silt curtains will be required.

9/26/02

